INTRODUCTION

Many operations in EnSight (such as loading data) require that you specify a file. EnSight uses a standard file selection dialog that lets you quickly search through directories to find the desired file.

BASIC OPERATION

By default, the File Selection dialog opens with the directory from which the EnSight client was started as the current directory. When opened subsequently, the directory that was last selected will be current.
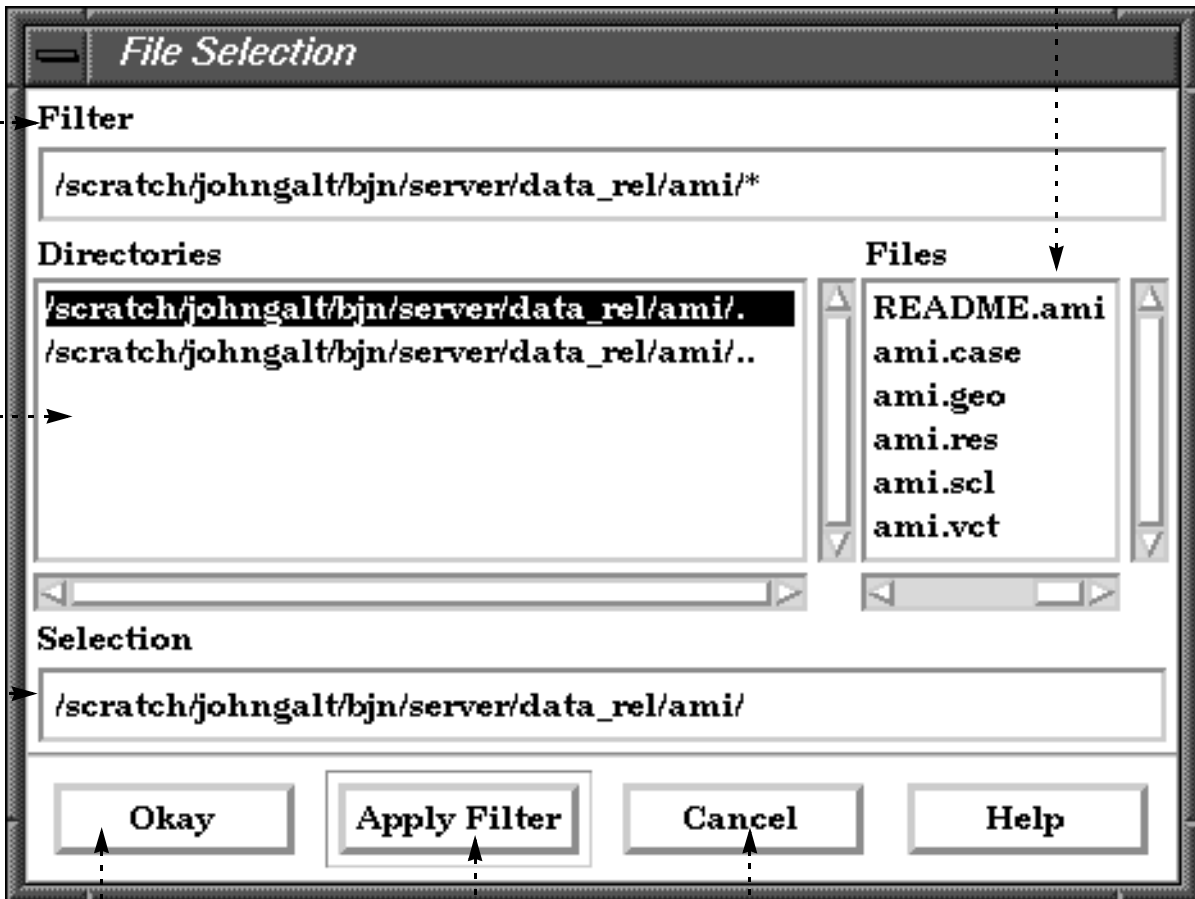
The following shows the basic components of the File Selection dialog:

The Files list displays the list of files contained in the current directory (possibly modified by the wildcard in the Filter field). **To make a file the current Selection, click it. To accept a file and close the dialog, double-click it.**

The Filter displays the name of the current directory and controls the listing of files in the Files list. You can use standard wildcard characters (such as *) to restrict the list to only those file names that match the wildcard. See **Wildcarding** below for more information.

The Directories list displays all directories in the current directory. Note that the current directory is shown ending with ".". and the parent of the current directory is shown ending with ".." (standard UNIX nomenclature). **To open a directory, double-click it.**

File Selection

Filter

`/scratch/johngalt/bjn/server/data_rel/ami/*`

Directories

`/scratch/johngalt/bjn/server/data_rel/ami/.`
`/scratch/johngalt/bjn/server/data_rel/ami/..`

Files

README.ami
ami.case
ami.geo
ami.res
ami.scl
ami.vct

Selection

`/scratch/johngalt/bjn/server/data_rel/ami/`

| Okay | Apply Filter | Cancel | Help |

The Selection field contains the full path name of the file currently selected in the Files list. This is the file that will be chosen if Okay is clicked. **Change the selection either by clicking a file in the Files list or editing the field directly. Pressing return will accept the Selection and close the dialog.**

Click to accept the current Selection and close the dialog.

Click to apply the Filter after a change (you can also just press return after making a filter change).

Click to cancel the selection and close the dialog.

Wildcarding

The EnSight File Selection Filter field accepts a standard set of regular expression characters that let you restrict the display of files in the Files list to those that match the regular expression. This can be useful when trying to quickly locate specific files in directories that contain large numbers of items. By default, the Filter field displays the current directory with "*" appended. The "*" is a special character that matches a sequence of zero or more characters of any type. For example, "*.geo" will match all files in the current directory that end with ".geo". This form of regular expression matching is essentially identical to that used by the UNIX shell programs (such as csh) to match file names when issuing commands.

You enter a wildcard by clicking the left mouse button in the Filter field and entering the desired text. When done, either press return or click the Apply Filter button. The Files list will then update to reflect the new filter.

The recognized regular expressions are:

Special Character	Description	Examples
*	Match any (zero or more) characters.	`*.geo` `widget*.cmd`
?	Match any single character.	`gadget?.geo`
[...]	Match any single character in the enclosed list(s) or range(s). A list is a string of characters. A range is two characters separated by a minus-sign (-), and includes all the characters in between in the ASCII collating sequence.	`file[13579].rgb` `file[1-9].rgb`
~	Matches your home directory. This is a special case: entering ~ (and pressing return) will set the current directory to your home directory and display all files in the Files list.	`~` `~/*.geo`
~user	Matches the home directory of user. This is a special case: entering ~user (and pressing return) will set the current directory to the home directory of user and display all files in the Files list.	`~joeuser` `~joeuser/*.cmd`